11 and 23 tons per hectare respectively. Sweet potatoes are generally planted after barley or rape and harvested in the fall when they are sliced and dried prior to export to the mainland where the slices are used as a source of starch in the production of alcohol for beverages.

Vegetable production includes an estimated 1,900 tons of cucumbers, 3,000 tons of sweet melons and watermelons, 35,000 tons of Chinese cabbage, 1,300 tons of cabbage, and 7,400 tons of garlic. Thus, vegetable crops are important to the island's economy and people's diet.

The crop husbandry carried out on the island appears to be very intensive and well carried out. The fields are relatively small and walled in by volcanic rocks cleared from the fields. Herbicides are used to a very limited extent, chiefly in the citrus orchards. The use of fused phosphate was introduced to the farmers during the period 1973 to 1975; this had a very marked effect on the increase in productivity of the crops. This plant nutritional element has undoubtedly done more for Cheju's agricultural production than any other single or combined factors.

One of the striking differences between Cheju Island and the mainland is the relatively small area devoted to paddy rice cultivation, less than 900 ha each year. Rice production is practically inconsequential to the agricultural economy. Paddy fields have not been developed due to the porous nature of the soils that cannot retain water.

Another contrast between the island and mainland is the flourishing cash crop economy. In both areas, rice is the chief food but very little of it is produced in Cheju. Barley is the most important crop; 17,000 ha are grown as a winter crop. Two-thirds is naked barley for food and the remaining one-third is two-row for malt, which is grown under contract with the two breweries on the mainland. The productivity of each barley crop is about the same, 2.8 tons per hectare. Imported rice is mixed with the pearled barley to form the basic diet of the people.

Rape is the most important cash crop, as about three-fourths of Korea's production, or 21,000 tons, is from Cheju. The productivity is 2.3 tons per hectare, nearly equal to barley. The seed is exported to the mainland where it is pressed for oil, one of the important edible oils in Korea. Thus, because rape seed demands a higher price than barley, its gross revenue is about 300 percent more per bag.

The areas cultivated with soybeans has remained practically constant over the past decade at a level of slightly less than 10,000 ha and a productivity of 1.0 ton per hectare, about 25 percent lower than the national average. Some of the soybeans are consumed locally as bean sprouts, but the majority of the crop is shipped to the mainland for pressing into oil.

In short, the farmers on the island appear better off compared with their counterparts on the mainland. Among other reasons, increased per hectare yields in the mid-1970s can be singled out as the most significant contributing factor. Higher yields were realized not so much through implementation of agricultural results as by judicious uses of fertilizers. Thus, the situation in Cheju is unique and distinct from that in the mainland Korea.